



Libary

Borough of Rawtenstall



ANNUAL REPORT

for 1957

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Chief Public Health Inspector

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:
COUNCILLOR E. GIBSON

Vice Chairman:
COUNCILLOR J. ASHWORTH

THE MAYOR (ALD. E. INGHAM, J.P.) EX-OFFICIO

ALDERMAN H. HALLIWELL

ALDERMAN F. PLATT

COUNCILLOR M. R. FOIZEY

" A. HALLIDAY

" F. H. HOWARTH

" A. INGHAM

" F. M. PROCTER

" T. H. STOREY

" G. TOMLINSON

" C. WOOD

-----600-----

BOROUGH OF RAWTENSTALL

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:
C. H. T. WADE, M.D., Ch.B., B.Sc., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:
C. CUNLIFFE, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Senior Additional Public Health Inspector:
L. T. SIMPSON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector:
J. HOLT, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerks:
A. HALLIWELL, MISS M. DIXON.

Pupil Public Health Inspector:
A. WORSLEY.

-----OOO-----

To the Mayor and Members of the Rawtenstall Borough Council.

I have the honour to present the annual report for the year 1957 on the health and sanitary conditions of the district.

The general health of the population was not seriously affected by the influenza epidemic. As in previous years the birth rate was below and the death rate above that of England and Wales.

The infant death rate was again a record low figure of 15.0 per 1,000 live births and there were no maternal deaths. The comprehensive health service now provided for mothers and babies undoubtedly contributes to this happy result.

There were more deaths than usual from cancer but the ten deaths due to cancer of the lung were in keeping with the national rate.

Epidemic diseases consisted principally of measles and acute pneumonia. The latter was increased by the influenza outbreak. Protection against infectious diseases is now becoming an important programme in early life. Within the first few years a child is inoculated against smallpox, whooping cough, diphtheria, tetanus and poliomyelitis and during later school life against tuberculosis. This has greatly increased the work of the health department and of family doctors but the results have been of tremendous benefit to children.

County Council and District Council Health staff took part in a national survey to ascertain the frequency of poliomyelitis infection present in apparently healthy children under the age of 5 years. Details are given on page 11.

Two outbreaks of food poisoning occurred amongst members of coach parties who visited the same town for a meal on different occasions. The Medical Officer of the town concerned was informed and the food poisoning organism, thought to be associated with a meal consisting of cold chicken, was identified.

During the year notification was received that, early in 1958, the Borough would become a designated area for milk, which means that no raw milk will be sold unless it is obtained from tuberculin tested herds. This will mean the end of diseases such as tuberculous glands of the neck and most bone and joint diseases of tuberculous origin.

Food inspection occupied the attention of the Public Health Inspectors and it is pleasing to report that there was complete inspection of all meat and offal at private slaughterhouses. This often necessitated a very early start in the mornings. Assistance was also given to the Ramsbottom Authority which has been short of a meat inspector for some time.

The housing programme has been temporarily held up due to the high cost of building and this has delayed the slum clearance programme.

With the coming into operation of the Clean Air Act, 1956, a start has been made on the smoke problem with particular reference to industry, but domestic pollution must also be dealt with because it is responsible for about 50% of the total smoke pollution of the atmosphere.

I wish to express my appreciation of the encouragement given by members of the Council and to tender my thanks to the staff for their excellent service.

I am, ladies and gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. H. T. WADE.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

GENERAL SUMMARY

The Registrar General estimates that the population has decreased by 220 since last year, the actual figure being 24,430. The adjusted birth rate was 14.6 per 1,000 of the population compared with the national rate of 16.1. The adjusted death rate was 16.8 per 1,000 and remains persistently higher than for England and Wales which was 11.5. This increased number of deaths was due to several causes, influenza and influenzal pneumonia constituted one individual cause during the year and there were more deaths from cancer than the national average but the main cause of the higher rate was disease of the circulatory system. Disease of the blood vessels is a long standing process leading to a breakdown of health in old people, commonly recognised as a stroke. It is not at all clear why this should occur but there is some evidence that it is affected by the amount and kind of food we eat. Too much food - especially fatty food, is believed to favour disease of the heart and blood vessels.

The infant mortality rate which was again 15.0 per 1,000 was much better than the national rate which was 23.0. A five year average gives a rate of 23.0 which is very satisfactory. There were five infant deaths of which three occurred within the first four weeks of age.

Epidemic diseases were principally represented by an outbreak of measles and an increased incidence of acute influenzal pneumonia. There were four deaths from influenza.

Constant supervision has been maintained over water and milk supplies. Two samples of raw milk were found to contain tuberculous infection and immediate action was taken to have the diseased animals removed.

Pollution of the atmosphere has received increased attention. More observations of smoke emissions and visits to factories and works have been made. Notices have been sent to all factory owners about the new requirements under the Clean Air Act. Nuisance due to grit emission from the Cloughfold Gas Works was reduced after consultation with the North Western Gas Board Authority. Offensive odours from a paper pulp works have also been a cause of complaint and the management have taken steps to minimise this trouble.

Food hygiene has received constant attention by visits to shops and traders. Two courses of lectures for food handlers were run in conjunction with the St. John Ambulance Association and the lectures were given by the Chief Public Health Inspector and his staff.

Two food poisoning outbreaks affected members of coach parties on their return journey from a day trip. Symptoms were severe pain and diarrhoea and necessitated treatment at Preston Royal Infirmary. A food poisoning organism, *Clostridium Welchii*, was isolated from the persons affected and it was thought this had contaminated a cold chicken tea which the party had consumed en route. The Health Authorities concerned were notified of the findings. On the second occasion information about the outbreak came too late for bacteriological investigation to be made.

The slum clearance programme has been delayed by a hold up in the building programme due to high costs.

Improvement grants, whereby a maximum of half the cost may be provided by the Council and the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, were approved in 40 cases. Such property must be capable of providing satisfactory accommodation, after improvement, for not less than 15 years.

STATISTICS

Area in acres	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9,528
Number of Inhabited Houses - according to the Rate Books									9,316
Number of Inhabited Houses - Census 1931	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,079
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£226,307
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£860
Population - Registrar General's Estimate (Mid-year 1957)									24,430
Population - Census 1931	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28,575
Population - Census 1951	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25,426

BIRTHS

					Male	Female	Total
Live Births	(	Legitimate	..	..	169	148	317
	(	Illegitimate	..	..	13	6	19
	(	Total	..	..	182	154	336
Still Births	(	Legitimate	..	..	3	3	6
	(	Illegitimate	..	..	-	-	-
	(	Total	..	..	3	3	6

DEATHS

Infantile	(	Legitimate	..	..	3	1	4
	(	Illegitimate	..	..	1	-	1
	(	Total	..	..	4	1	5

						<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Maternal	{	Puerperal Sepsis				-	-	-
		Other Maternal Causes ..				-	-	-
		Total				-	-	-
<hr/>								
Neo-natal Mortality - infants under four weeks of age						2	1	3
						<hr/>		
Total number of Deaths from all Causes						220	196	416
						<hr/>		
Live Birth Rate, per 1,000 Population								13.8
Adjusted Birth Rate, per 1,000 Population								14.6
Still Birth Rate, per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births								18.0
Infantile Mortality Rate, per 1,000 Live Births								15.0
Maternal Mortality Rate, per 1,000 Total Births								0.0
Neo-natal Mortality Rate, per 1,000 Live Births								9.0
Death Rate, per 1,000 Population								17.0
Adjusted Death Rate, per 1,000 Population								16.8
Death Rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System								0.16
Death Rate from Cancer								2.78

ENGLAND AND WALES

Live Birth Rate, per 1,000 Population	16.1
Death Rate, per 1,000 Population	11.5
Infantile Mortality Rate, per 1,000 Live Births	23.0

CAUSE OF DEATH							Male	Female	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	4
2.	Tuberculosis, other	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
5.	Whooping cough	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
8.	Measles	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	..	..	..	..	..	1	-	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	..	..	..	..	..	7	6	13
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	..	..	..	..	..	6	4	10
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	4
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	..	..	..	-	4	4
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	..	..	..	..	..	20	16	36
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	..	..	..	..	..	1	-	1
16.	Diabetes	..	..	..	..	..	3	-	3
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	..	..	..	..	30	41	71
18.	Coronary disease, angina	..	..	..	..	..	33	19	52
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	..	..	..	2	7	9
20.	Other heart disease	..	..	..	..	..	34	48	82
21.	Other circulatory disease	..	..	..	..	..	9	7	16
22.	Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	4
23.	Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	9	8	17
24.	Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	16	5	21
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..	..	..	..	2	-	2
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	..	..	..	4	1	5
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	..	..	..	4	-	4
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	..	..	..	17	14	31
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..	..	..	2	-	2
34.	All other accidents	..	..	..	..	..	5	5	10
35.	Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	5	2	7
36.	Homicide and operations of war	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
TOTALS							220	196	416

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE BOROUGH

Year	Popu- lation	Death Rate per 1,000	Birth Rate per 1,000 Population			Infant Mort. per 1,000 Live births	Actual Still Births	Maternal Death Rate per 1,000 Total Births
			Actual		All Births			
			Leg.	Illeg.				
1957	24,430	17.0	317	19	13.8	15	6	-
1956	24,650	14.4	312	17	13.3	15	8	-
1955	24,840	16.9	324	10	13.4	33	11	-
1954	24,900	16.1	329	9	13.6	30	4	2.92
1953	24,950	21.7	339	13	14.1	23	9	2.77
1952	25,140	14.0	319	24	13.6	32	8	2.85
1951	25,320	16.8	322	12	13.2	33	11	-
1950	25,350	15.5	339	16	14.0	37	7	2.76
1949	25,220	15.4	368	18	15.3	28	5	-
1948	25,140	14.2	389	19	16.2	48	13	3.93
1947	24,630	15.3	486	9	20.0	58	11	2.38
1946	24,300	14.2	365	23	15.9	35	15	7.35
1945	23,000	17.3	305	21	14.1	55	10	5.95
1944	23,630	15.5	386	16	17.3	57	9	4.86
1943	23,630	15.6	323	15	14.3	18	8	2.89
1942	26,030	12.6	307	10	12.9	35	18	-
1941	25,770	14.8	294	8	11.7	47	17	8.92
1940	26,030	14.8	274	5	10.7	47	12	-
1939	26,810	14.1	269	11	10.4	60	7	3.48
1938	27,070	14.0	311	10	11.8	62	12	6.00
1937	27,300	15.1	257	9	9.7	71	11	7.22
1936	27,710	14.4	323	12	12.0	59	20	-
1935	27,940	13.3	263	12	9.8	50	22	-
1934	28,020	12.4	340	17	12.7	78	12	2.71
1933	28,130	13.8	270	13	10.0	56	19	3.31
1932	28,500	13.2	307	9	11.0	63	21	8.90
1931	28,890	13.4	352	15	12.7	49	22	5.14
1930	28,660	13.2	330	13	11.9	84	22	-
1925	28,960	13.0	420	13	14.9	87	7	4.62
1920	28,470	13.3	559	34	20.8	89	9	6.91
1915	29,575	16.3	528	20	18.5	133		-
1910	32,960	12.2	599	26	19.0	110		9.60
1905	32,000	14.2	663	36	21.8	119		7.15
1900	30,934	16.7	717	35	24.3	153		2.66

S E C T I O N B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

The County Council is responsible for the following local health services which are administered under the Divisional Health Service Scheme:- Ambulance, District Nursing, Midwifery and Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

The following matters are the responsibility of the Borough Council:- control of infectious disease, provision of suitable water supplies, control of cleansing and disposal of refuse, inspection of all food and food preparing premises including the inspection of all meat carcasses at private slaughterhouses, sampling of food stuffs (milk, ice cream, etc.) for bacteriological examination, sanitary accommodation to houses, factories, shops and other premises, inspection of houses with regard to fitness for human habitation, statutory nuisances, rodent control, offensive trades, smoke abatement and many other matters concerned with environmental health.

Hospital facilities are now under the Regional Board and Management Committees and patients are admitted without regard to local boundaries.

The examination of pathological specimens and milk and water samples is undertaken, without charge, by the Public Health Laboratory at Monsall Hospital, Manchester.

SECTION C

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

For a period of twelve months the public health inspectors and County health visitors have co-operated in an investigation of the incidence of poliomyelitis infection in normal children under five years of age. Faecal specimens were collected from a series of children based on dates of birth. They were sent to Dr. M. T. Parker at the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester.

This investigation was part of a national survey and the findings will be reported in due course.

One interesting case came to light in Rawtenstall. A child aged two was found to be excreting poliomyelitis virus Type 1. On enquiring at the home it was found that, 12 days before the faeces specimen was taken, the child was in bed with a feverish illness including a sore throat, swollen glands of the neck and generally feeling off colour. On the third day she tried to get up but had difficulty in walking, on the fifth day she was much better and could walk but the mother noticed slight drooping of the left upper eyelid. No one else in the family had been ill and the child had not been immunised against poliomyelitis.

It would appear from the laboratory findings and the history of the case that this was clearly a poliomyelitis infection.

No case of poliomyelitis has been notified in Rawtenstall since September, 1955.

Other infectious diseases were mild in character and there were no deaths. There were no cases of diphtheria. Details of diphtheria immunisations during 1957 are shown in the following tables.

The number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation against diphtheria during 1957 is shown by the following table:-

AGE AT DATE OF FINAL INJECTION									
0 -	1 -	2 -	3 -	4 -	Total Under 5 years	5 -	10 -	Total 5 - 14 inc.	Total aged 15 & over
220	10	3	1	1	235	1	-	1	-

The number of children who were given a reinforcement injection during 1957, i.e. subsequent to complete course, is as follows:-

AGE GROUP				
0 -	5 -	10 - 14 incl.	Total 0 - 14 incl.	Total aged 15 and over
11	66	35	112	-

The number of children under 15 years of age who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1957, is as follows:-

Age at 31. 12. 57. i.e. born in year	Under 1 1957	1 - 4 1953-1956	5 - 9 1948-1952	10 - 14 1943-1947	Total Under 15
Number Immunised	47	964	1,632	1,353	3,996

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
(OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED DURING EACH YEAR FROM 1948 TO 1957

DISEASE	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	7	14	38	7	19	7	16	7	3	5
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Primary Pneumonia)	32	30	42	50	31	28	35	44	34	47
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia)										
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
Acute Polio-encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	23	10	7	-	112	3	307	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	11	3	5	1	4	5	2	2	1	-
Measles	305	20	479	111	223	254	21	417	42	306
Whooping Cough	105	16	123	66	104	72	74	104	86	31
Malaria-Contracted Abroad	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	7	4	6	-	4	-	1
TOTALS	464	90	711	255	392	372	261	584	478	394

Poliomyelitis Vaccination:-

The number of children who completed vaccination against Poliomyelitis during 1957 is shown by the following table:

0 - 2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11 - 14	TOTAL
-	47	53	55	77	116	127	114	108	3	700

NUMBER OF DIPHTHERIA CASES AND DEATHS, 1937 - 1957

					<u>No. of Cases</u>	<u>No. of Deaths</u>
1937	..	..	..	..	30	3
1938	..	..	..	..	19	-
1939	..	..	..	..	14	-
1940	..	..	..	..	54	4
1941	..	..	..	..	12	-
1942	..	..	..	..	13	-
1943	..	..	..	..	25	-
1944	..	..	..	..	27	-
1945	..	..	..	..	42	1
1946	..	..	..	..	30	-
1947	..	..	..	..	-	-
1948	..	..	..	..	-	-
1949	..	..	..	..	-	-
1950	..	..	..	..	-	-
1951	..	..	..	..	-	-
1952	..	..	..	..	-	-
1953	..	..	..	..	-	-
1954	..	..	..	..	-	-
1955	..	..	..	..	-	-
1956	..	..	..	..	-	-
1957	..	..	..	..	-	-

BACTERIOLOGICAL AND PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS

The following table shows the results of bacteriological and pathological examinations during the year.

<u>Details of Examination</u>					<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Faeces Specimens</u>							
Dysentery	..	..	..	..	3	142	145
Typhoid	..	..	..	..	-	145	145
Salmonella	..	..	..	..	1	144	145
Micro Examination	..	..	..	..	1	18	19
Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	-	91	91
Heat Resistant Anaerobes	..	..	..	..	-	2	2
<u>Throat Swabs</u>							
C. Diphtheriae	..	..	..	..	-	1	1
Haemolytic Streptococci	..	..	..	..	-	1	1

Nasal SwabsPositiveNegativeTotal

C. Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	-	1	1
Haemolytic Streptococci	..	..	..	..	-	1	1

TUBERCULOSIS

There were 21 new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified and five new cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis. Enquiries are made in every case about the source of infection and family and other close contacts of the patient are examined.

The new chest clinic which opened at the Rossendale General Hospital during 1953 continued to work very well and provides much better accommodation and facilities than formerly.

During the year 21 new cases and 72 contacts of these cases were visited. In addition, 766 re-visits were paid to existing cases and 46 re-visits to contacts of these cases. Where desirable, Sanatorium or Hospital treatment is arranged for after consultation between the Tuberculosis Officer and the Medical Practitioners concerned.

At the beginning of the year there were 216 cases of tuberculosis on the register. Twenty-six cases were added and 71 cases taken off the register, leaving a total of 161 cases on the register at the end of the year. The following table gives an analysis of the cases on the register during the year.

PARTICULARS OF CASES ON REGISTER DURING 1957

	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY			TOTAL PULMONARY AND NON-PULMONARY		
	M.	F.	TOTAL	M.	F.	TOTAL	M.	F.	TOTAL
No. of cases on register at beginning of year	72	66	138	30	38	68	102	104	206
No. of cases added to register during year	9	12	21	1	4	5	10	16	26
No. of cases removed from register during year:-									
(a) Died	5	3	8	-	1	1	5	4	9
(b) Left the district	8	8	16	5	8	13	13	16	29
(c) Recovered	5	10	15	8	9	17	13	19	32
(d) Diagnosis not confirmed ..	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
No. of cases remaining on register at end of year	62	57	119	18	24	42	80	81	161

The following table gives the age groups of new cases taken on the register and deaths of cases removed from the register during 1957.

AGE GROUP	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Fem's	Males	Fem's	Males	Fem's	Males	Fem's
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 24	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	1	2	-	1	1	1	-	-
35 - 44	4	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
45 - 54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	1	1	-	1	3	-	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	1
	9	12	1	4	5	3	-	1

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1937 - 1957

	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	<u>Total</u>
1937 ..	14	3	17
1938 ..	7	4	11
1939 ..	12	1	13
1940 ..	13	4	17
1941 ..	6	3	9
1942 ..	10	1	11
1943 ..	6	1	7
1944 ..	12	5	17
1945 ..	10	4	14
1946 ..	11	3	14
1947 ..	7	1	8
1948 ..	11	3	14
1949 ..	9	-	9
1950 ..	8	0	8
1951 ..	7	1	8
1952 ..	7	-	7
1953 ..	6	-	6
1954 ..	7	-	7
1955 ..	8	-	8
1956 ..	-	-	-
1957 ..	4	-	4

SECTION D

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Eleventh Annual Report on the work carried out by the Public Health Inspectors. The period under review is for the calendar year ending 31st December 1957, except for the section of the report dealing with Public Cleansing Services which covers the financial year ending 31st March, 1958.

Reference was made in the last report to the hope that legislation in the form of the Clean Air Act, 1956, would enable industrial towns to so cleanse the air that they would no longer be regarded as the "Black Areas". The new Act will not be in complete operation until June 1958, but Rawtenstall, like many authorities, has increased its activities in this important field. In 1957 the number of visits in connection with industrial smoke abatement was double that of the previous year, the percentage of unsatisfactory smoke observations was half that of 1956, whilst notifications were received from a number of firms of their proposals to improve boiler plant so as to ensure compliance with the new provisions. These are the first healthy signs that industrial pollution will be lessened. Much more remains to be done and too many firms still do not appreciate that black smoke means wastage of valuable fuel apart from any health significance. Much of the moderate smoke permissible under the present bye-laws will not be permissible after the 1st June, 1958, and a real effort will be made to reduce the pollution in as early a time as practical circumstances permit. When an appreciable reduction in industrial smoke can be noted I believe that then a more active drive can be made to reduce the equally important domestic pollution by the creation of smoke control areas in which householders will not be permitted to create smoke and the use of smokeless fuels will be the rule. During the year, Rawtenstall participated in the North West Clean Air Campaign organised by the National Smoke Abatement Society (North West Division) and a mobile exhibition created much interest, while the local press gave valuable co-operation by specially featuring the campaign.

Progress has continued in the provision of public water supply to houses receiving water from unsatisfactory private sources, and since these schemes commenced in 1941, the number of houses dealt with has been over one thousand. Towards the end of the year the condition of the largest remaining private supply, involving 468 houses, was found to have deteriorated in quality and consumers were warned to boil the water before use. The Irwell Valley Water Board were requested to expedite the submission of a scheme of public water mains extensions

to these areas. At the time of writing this report the condition of the water supply had improved following certain action taken by the suppliers of the water. The supply will be kept under regular review and decision on the public water mains extension scheme to these houses, as in all outstanding cases, will depend mainly upon the ability to satisfy constantly the accepted bacteriological and chemical standards laid down. Many outstanding houses will automatically be dealt with in clearance and improvement schemes.

The report shows that the carcasses and organs of all the animals slaughtered in the Borough were subject to detailed inspection and that over two tons of meat and close on five tons of offal were rejected as unsound. 95 samples of milk were collected and submitted to tests to ascertain their cleanliness, freedom from tubercle bacilli and to ascertain the efficiency of processes involving heat treatment of milk. Two samples of milk were found to contain tubercle bacilli and following later action by the Divisional Veterinary Officer diseased animals were slaughtered, and later samples confirmed that the milks were free from infection. The standard of heat treated milk was good but one would like to see fewer samples of raw milk failing to reach present day standards. Ice cream sampling revealed that the general hygienic quality was good, the unsatisfactory results reported were, later in the year, cleared up following co-operative action with an outside authority, the report also gives details of action taken by the Lancashire County Council to ensure that food is not adulterated and impoverished. It is pleasing to know that in no instance was any offence regarded as serious enough to warrant prosecution. Satisfactory progress was made by the food trade in remedying defects found on inspection of various food premises and the report shows that close on 400 contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations were remedied. The work of inspecting all food premises in the Borough is continuous and one hopes that in the course of the next two years it can be reported that all food premises substantially comply with all requirements. Only in a few isolated instances does there appear to be a lack of desire to achieve decent standards.

Unsatisfactory housing is the town's major problem so far as the Health Department is concerned and apart from the health aspect it is suggested that any prolonged retarding of the slum clearance programme would have wider deleterious effects to the town's disadvantage. The Council's decision during the year to cease house building for the time being on financial grounds made it impossible to follow up the making of Orders on 119 houses previously represented. However, 80 families living in condemned houses have been re-housed during the past year, mainly in vacated Council houses, but this rate of progress is not sufficient for the slum clearance programme to be maintained according to schedule, and until new house building no further houses can be represented. The best that can be done is to deal with the worst of the individual cases. At the time of writing this report the Council had commenced house building to the extent of 40 houses to deal with the outstanding Orders. If a realistic attack is to be made on the

1515 houses scheduled for clearance it is essential that we keep abreast of the 100 houses per year originally planned. During the year the Rent Act, 1957, came into operation and the Department was concerned with applications for certificates of disrepair mainly from tenants required to pay increases in rents and where the owners had not carried out repairs or given the prescribed undertakings to do so. The role of the local authority in these matters is a subsidiary one as arbitor deciding only on repair items raised by the tenant, and these may or may not, when carried out, make a house fit for habitation. Local authorities are still free to secure what in their opinion is a proper standard of repair divorced from rental considerations and limited only by the provision of the relevant legislation contained in the Housing Acts and Public Health Act.

In conclusion I should like to record the Department's appreciation of the encouragement and support received from all members of the Health Committee and also thank all colleague officials for their co-operation. My personal thanks are also due to a very capable and loyal staff and body of employees for their unstinting service during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

C. CUNLIFFE

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

WATER SUPPLY

With the exception of 78 houses in the Cowpe district, which are supplied from mains provided and maintained by the Bacup Corporation, the public water supply to 8114 houses in the Borough is furnished by the Irwell Valley Water Board. The remaining 1105 houses are supplied from private sources, the water being piped into the houses in all but 12 instances. Four new houses and forty-seven existing houses were connected to the public supply during the year.

1. PUBLIC SUPPLY

Upland surface reservoirs at Clowbridge, Greenfold and Clough Bottom, all of which are chlorinated and filtered, provide the source for the main public supply. Owing to certain waters being derived from peaty moorlands there is a liability to plumbo-solvency and the water is lime treated to overcome this. Ninety-four examinations for plumbo-solvency were made and found to be mainly satisfactory. The Water Board also reports that satisfactory results were obtained from 94 bacteriological and 22 chemical examinations carried out during the year.

2. PRIVATE SUPPLIES

Progress has continued satisfactorily in dealing with unsatisfactory private water supplies. Details of this progress are given below, together with a summary of the present outstanding position.

PROGRESS BY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

		<u>No. of Notices</u>		
		<u>1951/6</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Informal Notices served on owners	..	1,311	22	1,333
Reminder Notices served on owners	..	806	7	813
Formal Notices served on owners	..	85	1	86

		<u>No. of Houses</u>		
		<u>1951/6</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Schemes prepared and forwarded to				
Water Undertakers	.. .. .	1,579	15	1,594
Schemes approved by Council	.. ..	940	15	955
Houses dealt with under Housing Acts				
(closure or demolition)	.. ..	73	7	80

PROGRESS BY WATER UNDERTAKERS

New mains laid	930	15	945
----------------	---------	-----	----	-----

PROGRESS BY OWNERS

Agreement received from owners to				
connect to new mains	.. .. .	878	31	909
Action by local authority in default		17	1	18
Connected to new mains	.. .. .	859	47	906

CONTROL MEASURES - Sampling

	<u>Bacterio- logical</u>		<u>Chemical (Organic Content)</u>		<u>Chemical (Presence of Lead)</u>	
	<u>1951/6</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1951/6</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1951/6</u>	<u>1957</u>
No. of samples collected ..	778	56	90	4	126	-
No. reported satisfactory ..	331	17	74	-	86	-
No. reported suspicious ..	104	8	11	1	-	-
No. reported unsatisfactory	343	31	5	3	40	-

CONTROL MEASURES - Warning Letters to Consumers

	<u>No. of Houses</u>			<u>Still Operative 31/12/57</u>
	<u>1951/6</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>Totals</u>	
Advice to boil and to run standing water to waste	295	-	295	11
Advice to boil only	659	468	1,127	537
Advice to run standing water to waste only	25	-	25	14

SUMMARY AS AT 31.12.57.

	<u>No. of Houses</u>		<u>No. of Houses</u>
Originally recorded - water supply conversion schemes reasonably practicable			1,898
Conversions to public supply:			
Completed - Connected to Mains	906		
Action in progress	49		955
			943
Action under Housing Programmes			80
			863
Houses to be Closed or Demolished:			
1st 5 year plan	102		
2nd 5 year plan	167		
3rd 5 year plan	45		314
<u>Balance</u>			549

NOTE Of these 549 houses, 43 are earmarked for review in 15 years time
74 are earmarked for possible conversion to
through houses or for sanitary improvement.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The sewerage scheme is on the separate system. The sewage disposal plant is situated in the neighbouring town of Haslingden and is controlled by the Haslingden, Rawtenstall and Bacup Outfall Sewage Board. Treatment is by precipitation and filtration.

Four new houses have been connected to the sewerage system during the year and this is the total extent of new work undertaken. Three hundred and five houses are not connected to the sewerage system but the majority of these are outlying farms and cottages not connected by reason of their isolation.

There were 678 inspections made in connection with drainage defects and 499 complaints of blocked drains and closets were dealt with by the Department during the year. The employment of a man for the prompt release of blocked drains provides a valuable service and complaints are normally dealt with within 24 hours of receipt.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

The Rivers Irwell, Limy Water and Whitewell Brook are polluted by industrial premises in the area and improvement in this matter is one of the chief sanitary requirements in this district.

The most offensive section of river is the Limy Water with an estimated dry weather flow of no more than $3\frac{1}{4}$ million gallons per day. When it is considered that the daily effluent from the two largest works on the banks is 2 million gallons it can be seen that the stream is practically made up of trade waste during periods of drought. Increased use of sulphides in certain manufacturing processes at one works during the year further increased the nuisance arising from this stream.

The responsible authority for dealing with pollution is the Mersey River Board with whom contact was made on a number of occasions during the year regarding abnormal pollutions, and the fullest co-operation was obtained from the officers concerned. The area of the Board is based on the natural drainage areas of rivers and streams which ultimately feed the River Mersey.

On the brighter side, a substantial part of Whitewell Brook is now so clean that a local Angling Society are able to fish in the stream. The Society played a very commendable part in clearing the stream of debris and no industrial pollution occurs.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

No. of privy middens	7
No. of closets attached to these middens	7
No. of pail closets	298
No. of dry ashpits (exclusive of middens)	14
No. of waste water closets	2,533
No. of fresh water closets	6,186
No. of portable receptacles for refuse	9,875

Satisfactory progress continued to be maintained in the conversion of waste water closets to fresh water closets and 95 such improvements were carried out during the year. The Council contribute £10 towards the cost of such conversions and one half the cost of the plumbing and drainage work in the case of pail conversions.

Since the scheme was instituted in May, 1952, applications have been approved for the conversion of 35 pail closets and 680 waste water closets. Grants approved total £655 4s. 10d. in respect of pails and £6,337 17s. 6d. in respect of waste water closets.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS DURING 1957

The following table gives the number of inspections made by public health inspectors during the year.

	<u>Primary</u> <u>Visits</u>	<u>Re-</u> <u>Visits</u>	<u>Totals</u>
<u>SANITARY ADMINISTRATION</u>			
Cleansing and Salvage	146	6	152
Disinfection	28	-	28
Drainage and Sewerage	511	167	678
Factories with Mechanical Power	21	17	38
Factories, others	1	-	1
Infectious Diseases	126	21	147
Nuisances (Miscellaneous)	167	96	263
Offensive Trades	4	8	12
Public Conveniences	351	-	351
Refuse Accommodation	153	52	205
River Pollution	10	2	12
Rodent Control	61	53	114
Sanitary Accommodation	384	26	410
Shops Act	1	1	2
Smoke Abatement	57	61	118
Smoke Observations	74	1	75
Verminous Premises	6	4	10
Water Sampling	112	-	112
Water Supplies (private)	124	2	126
Water Supplies (public)	15	-	15

							<u>Primary Visits</u>	<u>Re- Visits</u>	<u>Totals</u>
<u>HOUSING ADMINISTRATION</u>									
Dwelling house repairs - H.A.	..	..	..	..	..	..	39	37	76
Dwelling house repairs - P.H.A.	..	..	..	..	..	..	146	280	426
Enquiries (Miscellaneous)	..	..	..	..	..	..	94	8	102
Rents Act, 1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	42	8	50
Overcrowding	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	-	2
Survey	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	6	7

FOOD ADMINISTRATION

Diseases of Animals Acts	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	3	9
Food Inspection	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	-	40
Food Poisoning	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	8	28
Food Premises - Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	19	20
Butchers	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	74	80
Cooked Meat Manufacturers	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	1	1
Catering Establishments	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	17	20
Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	14	19
Food Preparing	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	2	7
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	7	10
Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	5	13
Grocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	17	28	45
Licensed Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-	1
Hawkers	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	1	1
Ice Cream Manufacturers	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3
Ice Cream Retailers	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	7	17
Ice Cream Sampling	..	..	..	..	..	..	32	2	34
Meat Inspection	..	..	..	..	..	..	1208	-	1208
Milk Sampling	..	..	..	..	..	..	113	3	116
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	7	13
Milk Licence Applications	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	-	15
Milk Distributors	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	-	4
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	<u>4181</u>	<u>1055</u>	<u>5236</u>

WORK ACCOMPLISHED DURING THE YEAR

The following list of housing defects and nuisances were discovered, remedied and dealt with by service of notice. The list of defects noted and remedied in connection with food premises is set out on page 41 of the report.

DWELLING HOUSE REPAIRS AND NUISANCES

RECORDED IN JOURNAL (P.H.A.)

<u>External</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Abated</u>
Roofs	16	13
Chimney stacks	3	4
Chimney flues	4	4
Eaves gutters	21	16
Rain water pipes	8	9
Walls - structure	5	5
Wall pointings	15	13
Yard surfacings	5	3
Outbuildings	12	7
Waste water closets defective	38	37
Waste water closets converted	-	9
Fresh water closets defective	6	5
Drains	52	50
Ashpits defective	1	-
Dustbins defective	14	14
<u>Internal</u>		
Ceilings	3	5
Wall plaster	9	4
Windows	15	19
Doors	-	1
Floors	4	5
Fireplaces	-	1
Sinks	1	2
<u>Miscellaneous</u>		
Water supply fittings	1	-
Offensive accumulations	1	1
Water supplies unsatisfactory	15	47
Total Defects	<u>249</u>	<u>274</u>

NOTICES SERVED

Informal	241
Statutory	4

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

There are 64 factory chimneys in the Borough of which 52 are used in connection with steam raising plants as follows:-

Power, process and heating	..	..	..	17
Power and process only	..	..	..	6
Heating only	..	..	..	29

The results of the 75 smoke observations taken during the year were as follows and industrial firms were notified of all results of observations.

Less than three minutes black smoke emitted per half hour (Bye-law standard)	63
More than three minutes black smoke emitted per half hour	12

Some general comment on the Clean Air Act, 1956 has been made in the introductory letter and here some details can be given.

Two notifications were received under Section 3 of the new Act of intention to instal new furnaces. In both instances the type of equipment to be provided should, if properly operated and maintained, ensure that the plant complies with the Act. Although such notifications are now compulsory the prior approval of the plant is optional, although firms are being encouraged to seek this and, in fact, notify all modifications to existing plant. The Committee, during the year, agreed, where necessary, to consult the National Fuel Efficiency Service in cases where prior approval is sought and also to defray the cost of consultation. In addition to the above, much discussion took place with several industrial firms on proposed improvements.

The Council agreed to the making of bye-laws under Section 24 of the Act which provides for new buildings to be equipped with such appliances as are suitably designed to burn gas, electricity, gas coke or anthracite. The bye-laws do not require smokeless fuels to be used, but ensure that suitable appliances are installed in new buildings which later may be included in a smoke control area.

Considerable difficulty was experienced during the year in remedying a nuisance created at the works previously referred to in the paragraph on "Rivers and Streams". Inclusion of sulphide compounds in the treating process gave rise to atmospheric pollution from mercaptans, the complete decolorisation of which are a recognized industrial headache. Advice was sought from H.M. Government's Alkali Inspector in this matter. At the time of writing this report there appeared good grounds to believe that the nuisance had been appreciably minimised.

DISINFESTATION

Advice and assistance is given to all occupiers of infested premises who seek our help. Treatment for householders is free if their co-operation can be secured, and the methods vary according to circumstances. The substances used are 10% D.D.T. powders with pyrethrum, 5% liquid D.D.T. in kerosene and Murfume D.D.T. and Murfume Lindane smoke generators.

Treatment by the Department's staff has been undertaken in the following cases:-

				<u>No. of Premises</u>	<u>No. of Rooms</u>
Cockroaches	- Domestic	..	..	43	65
	Shops	..	..	1	2
	Factories	..	..	1	4
	Licensed Premises	..	..	2	4
	Schools	..	..	3	9
	Bakehouses	..	..	1	1
Fleas	- Domestic	..	..	8	26
Flies	- Domestic	..	..	1	1
	Shop	..	..	1	1
Common Black Beetles	- Domestic	..	..	1	1
Cane Beetles	- Factories	..	..	1	1
Furniture Beetles	- Domestic	..	..	1	3

DISINFECTION

Twenty-eight visits were made during the year in connection with the disinfection of rooms and articles. The following treatments were given in 1957:-

					<u>Disinfected</u>		<u>Destroyed</u>	
					<u>T.B.</u>	<u>Others</u>	<u>T.B.</u>	<u>Others</u>
Rooms	..	..	..	..	10	19	-	-
Beds	..	..	..	..	10	1	4	17
Other Articles	..	..	..	..	105	10	40	41

SCHOOLS

There are 23 schools in the Borough and the following table sets out the general standard of sanitary arrangements. The Regulations referred to are based on the School Premises Amended Regulations.

Yard Surfaces unsatisfactory	..	..	..	..	..	11
Sanitary Accommodation:-						
Fresh water closets only	..	..	..	..	..	23
Trough closets only	..	..	..	..	..	-
Refuse disposal by dustbins	..	..	..	..	..	23

Water Supply:-

Public mains	22
Private supplies	1
Washing facilities unsatisfactory according to standards prescribed by Regulations	17
Drinking facilities unsatisfactory	20

The facilities for handling school meals were mainly satisfactory and a high standard of cleanliness was observed. A central meal kitchen supplies the majority of schools, the meals being carried in insulated containers. Periodic visits were made by public health inspectors during the year.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

Improvements were carried out at the one tripe dressing premises. During the year an application was made and registration granted for the establishment of a gut scraping business.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

Control of moveable dwellings is effected by Section 140 of the Rawtenstall Corporation Act, 1907. No applications were made during the year.

RAG FLOCK

The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951, came into operation on the 1st November, 1951, and the Act repeals the Rag Flock Acts of 1911 and 1928. There are no licensed premises within the Borough but three premises are registered as users of filling materials.

RODENT CONTROL

One man is employed full time on Rodent Control work with extra assistance being furnished as required for sewer and river bank treatments. A free service is given to tenants of domestic property but a charge is made for the treatment of business premises. The following summary sets out the work carried out during the year.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All Others	Total
Number of properties in Local Authority's District ..	12	9,597	220	918	10,747
Number of properties inspected as a result of:-					
(a) Notification	5	148	5	65	223
(b) Survey under the Act	2	73	45	35	155
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	-	12	-	43	55
Total inspections carried out including re-inspections	50	965	121	537	1,673
Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:-					
(a) Rats (Major)	3	1	4	14	22
(Minor)	1	38	14	33	86
(b) Mice (Major)	-	5	-	5	10
(Minor)	4	63	-	27	94
Number of infested properties treated by Local Authority	6	106	9	73	194
Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	8	107	9	80	204
Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act	-	-	-	-	-
Number of "Block" Control schemes carried out ..	-	7	-	-	7

In addition to the above the sewers in the town were treated twice during the year with the following results:-

SEWER TREATMENTS

	<u>Test Baiting</u>	<u>1st Treatment</u>	<u>2nd Treatment</u>
Total number of manholes ..	2,020	2,020	2,020
No. test baited	369	719	460
No. showing 'take'	74	232	118
No. showing complete 'take'	-	124	73

The sewers were treated for the third time employing the extended pre-baiting technique and using zinc phosphide or arsenious oxide as poisons. This new method has achieved a considerable reduction in the sewer rat population and there appears little doubt it is to be preferred to the previously accepted methods. The following figures demonstrate this:-

	<u>Prior to use of</u> <u>new technique</u>	<u>After two treatments</u> <u>using new technique</u>
No. of manholes infested	296	118
Weight of poison taken ..	546 ozs.	168 ozs.

In thirteen out of twenty areas of the town (each containing 100 manholes) little or no infestation can now be reported compared with three formerly. There seems every likelihood of reducing the general level of infestation to negligible proportions with continued use of the new method.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

The above Act, which came into operation on the 1st April, 1952, seeks to control the conditions under which pet animals are kept for sale. All primary inspections were carried out in conjunction with the local inspector of the R.S.P.C.A. Three premises are licensed under the above Act.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

	<u>No. on</u> <u>Register</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Inspections</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Notices</u>
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	182	-	-
Factories not included above to which Section 7 applies ..	152	38	5
Other premises to which Section 7 applies	6	-	-
Totals ..	340	38	5

DEFECTS FOUND

	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Referred</u>	
			<u>to H.M.</u>	<u>by H.M.</u>
			<u>Inspector</u>	<u>Inspector</u>
Sanitary Conveniences:-				
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	9	8	-	9
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
Totals ..	9	8	-	9

OUTWORKERS

In accordance with Section 110 of the Factories Act, 1937, notifications on the August list were received from six factory occupiers in the Borough that 20 outworkers were employed in classes of work specified by order. This shows a decrease of 11 outworkers from last year. These were entirely connected with the slipper industry. In seven cases, where the outworker carried on work outside the Borough, the appropriate Local Authorities were informed.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

REFUSE COLLECTION

During the year another 16/18 cubic yard Fore and Aft Tipper was acquired and the refuse collection districts were re-organised. Previously, a weekly refuse collection service was maintained by four vehicles, each staffed with four men. It was found possible to operate the same service with two 16/18 cubic yard vehicles and one 7 cubic yard vehicle, the larger vehicle staffed by six men and the smaller by four men. The average length of haul to the tip for the large vehicles is $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles, whilst the smaller capacity vehicles is $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles.

9825 bins are collected weekly by the three teams giving a performance of 125 bins per man per day, the fourth 7 cubic yard freighter is engaged mainly on salvage collection.

REFUSE STORAGE

Refuse storage arrangements are, on the whole, maintained by property owners in a satisfactory condition. With very few exceptions they respond readily to informal notice from the Department and request us to supply renewals. During the year 541 dust bins were supplied by the Department. Generally, therefore, the bins throughout the town are of standard type, mainly of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ cu. ft. B.S.S. pattern. Refuse is collected from 9,578 premises. There are 14 ashpits at isolated cottages not situated

conveniently for regular collection. The worst feature of the storage accommodation is in connection with certain types of back-to-back houses where communal bin stores and sharing of dustbins is an unsatisfactory feature.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

Last year's report recommended that future consideration be given to the advantages which could be gained by mechanising much of the work at Meadow Head Tip. It is pleasing to report that the Committee have approved the purchase of a suitable machine during 1958. Increasing difficulty in obtaining sufficient covering material for satisfactory tip sealing should be overcome by mechanisation. It is the intention to acquire a machine which in addition to levelling and consolidating refuse will excavate suitable material from the older parts of the tip which will be very suitable for cover. The number of loads tipped during the year was as follows:-

Refuse	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,977
Sweepings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	106
Gully Material	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	172
Various	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	641

PAIL CLOSETS

The mechanical gully emptier is hired from the Highways Department on two days per week for the emptying of 170 pails provided at unsewered property. The large majority of these pails are emptied weekly and on each occasion the emptied pail is charged with approximately a gallon of "strong" disinfectant fluid.

CLEANSING COSTS

Costs for the service bear favourable comparison with those for similar size and type of Authority in the country according to the Public Cleansing Costing Returns published for 1956/57 by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

The cost of refuse collection and disposal (excluding excreta removed) for the financial year ending 31st March, 1958, was as follows:-

				<u>Collection</u>	<u>Disposal</u>	<u>Totals</u>
				£	£	£
Total gross expenditure	..	..		16,211	3,006	19,217
Gross income	..	..	..	548	1,800	2,348
Nett cost	..	..	..	15,663	1,206	16,869
Nett cost per 1,000 population	..			641	49	690
Nett cost per 1,000 premises	..			1,650	127	1,777
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Nett cost per ton	..	..		1 14 5	2 8	1 17 1

SALVAGE

The weight and value of salvage collected during the year was as follows:-

					T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	..	..	..	..	.226	3	3	1,583	6	3
Textiles	..	..	..	..	1	8	3	15	9	6
Ferrous Metals	..	..	..	..		11	0	3	18	6
Non-ferrous Metals	..	..	..	..		11	0	50	11	7
Scrap Tins	..	..	..	..	11	8	2	64	5	4
					<hr/>			<hr/>		
Totals	..	..	..	..	240	3	0	1,717	11	2
					<hr/>			<hr/>		
Less Salvage 'Bonus'	..	..	..	..				439	18	5
								<hr/>		
Nett Income	..	..	..	..				1,277	12	9
								<hr/>		

The weight of waste paper collected and sold was the highest yet realised and showed nearly a 100% increase over the 1953 figure i.e. before the introduction of the bonus scheme. Although the income derived from the sale of waste paper provides valuable relief for the rates, the value of waste paper remains low.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Queens Square conveniences were completely gutted and modernised during the year. This included the provision of free washing facilities for both sexes, a hygienic necessity long overdue. Also approved during the year in the five year capital expenditure programme was the provision of new conveniences in the Bury Road and Haslingden Road districts. When these are completed the town should be reasonably well covered.

Three hundred and fifty-one visits were paid by members of the staff to the public conveniences in the area during the year.

-----oOo-----

SECTION E

HOUSING

NEW HOUSES

Number of new houses erected during the year:-

				<u>Houses</u>	<u>Flats</u>
(a)	By the local authority	..	..	-	-
(b)	By other local authorities	..	..	-	-
(c)	By other bodies or persons	..	..	4	-

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	..	329
Number of inspections made for the above purpose	..	757
Number of dwelling houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit:-		
(a) Number found during the year	.. ..	64
(b) Number at end of year	.. ..	1,348
Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit	.. ..	237

CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES

A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED.

In Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1957)

	<u>Houses</u> <u>Demolished</u>	<u>Displaced</u> <u>Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	12	100	36
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement etc.	-	-	-
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2)	2	5	2

Not in Clearance Areas

(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17 (1)	-	21	6
(5) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	-	-	-
(6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	-	-	-
(7) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	-	-	-

B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED (Housing Act, 1957)

	<u>Houses Demolished</u>	<u>Displaced Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
(8) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1), 35(1)	11	10	4
(9) Under Sections 17(3) and 26. ..	-	-	-
(10) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18	-	-	-

C. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED

	<u>By Owner</u>	<u>By Local Authority.</u>
(11) After informal action by local authority	239	-
(12) After formal notice under:		
(a) Public Health Acts	2	-
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957	1	-
(13) Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957 ..	-	-

D. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act, 1957): NIL

E. PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT: NIL

HOUSING ACT, 1949 - IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

	<u>No. of Schemes</u>	<u>No. of Dwelling Houses Affected</u>
Schemes submitted during year:-		
(a) By private individuals to L.A.	51	53
(b) Finally approved by L.A. ..	40	41
(c) Work completed	32	32
(d) Additional separate dwellings in (c)	-	-

In addition one scheme, involving 12 dwellings, was submitted by the Local authority to the Minister for confirmation.

CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR - (Rent Act, 1957)

No. of applications for certificates	28
No. of decisions not to issue certificates	-
No. of decisions to issue certificates	21
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	15
(b) in respect of all defects	6
No. of undertakings given by landlords	13
No. of undertakings refused by L.A.	-
No. of certificates issued	8
Applications by landlords for cancellation of certificate	-
Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	-
Decisions by L.A. to cancel in spite of tenant's objection	-
Certificates cancelled by L.A.	-

GENERAL

The temporary discontinuance of house building on financial grounds, which has resulted in no new Council houses having been built for over two years has appreciably retarded the proposed slum clearance programme. At the time of writing this report it had been decided to resume building by the erection of 40 houses. This number will simply deal with outstanding families requiring re-housing in confirmed areas. Even if the originally planned rate of 100 houses per year is decided upon in the very near future, it is estimated that the first five year programme will be two years behind schedule.

Although 64 houses were represented in four Clearance Areas during the year, the necessary Orders could not be made until house building resumed. Despite the shortage of houses some progress was made in re-housing 38 families from confirmed clearance areas, and 21 individual unfit houses were represented for demolition or closure and from these 10 families were re-housed.

The following table shows the re-housing progress from condemned properties which are the subject of confirmed Orders or voluntary closure or demolition:

	<u>No. of Houses when inspected</u>	<u>No. of Houses since vacated</u>	<u>No. of Houses still occupied</u>
Confirmed Clearance Area ..	78	49	29
Confirmed Individual Unfit Houses	43	32	11
	<u>121</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>40</u>

In addition to the above 40 outstanding cases, 103 occupied houses are included in represented Clearance Areas where Orders have not been made due to a lack of houses.

It will be recalled that the 20 year plan visualised dealing with 2,809 houses, approximately half of which will be dealt with by demolition and the remainder by improvement. The following figures analyses the proposed programme of dealing with the 2,809 houses.

			<u>Back-to-back type</u>	<u>Through</u>	<u>Total</u>
1.	Demolition Schemes				
	(a) Slum Clearance	.. ..	967	497	1,464
	(b) Road Widening	.. ..	70	16	86
			1,037	513	1,550
2.	Conversion Schemes	.. ..	612	52	664
3.	Sanitary Improvement Schemes		203	105	308
4.	Deferred Schemes for review on completion of demolition schemes		76	211	287
			1,928	881	2,809

At the end of the year there were 680 applicants for Council houses, of which 244 were included in the first priority list on the qualifying grounds prescribed by the Housing Committee. Census figures taken of people living in houses included in the first five year plan reveal that there is a high percentage of elderly people who will require either single persons flats or aged persons bungalows.

The house building programme has been integrated with the proposed clearance programme so that wherever possible displaced families can be rehoused as near as possible to where they live now. The following schemes are contemplated when building is resumed.

- 377 houses, flats and bungalows, Balladen Housing Estate.
- 8 block of flats, Ormerod Street, Water.
- 4 block of flats, Springfield Road, Rawtenstall.
- 16 block of flats, Hobson Street, Rawtenstall.
- 10 block of aged persons bungalows, Adelaide Street, Crawshawbooth.
- 37 houses and flats, Higher Cloughfold Clearance Scheme.
- Booth Road, Bridleway, Whitewell Bottom and Newchurch Clearance Schemes.

-----000-----

SECTION F

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY

The supervision of milk production on farms is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Local authorities are still responsible for many important duties connected with milk distribution, including the sampling of milk after it leaves the farm. They also possess the powers for prevention of infection of milk, and duties in connection with water supply, sewage disposal and housing at farm and dairy premises.

The majority of the producer-retailers were sampled twice during the year. The raw milk samples were submitted to the biological test to determine whether they were free from tubercle bacilli, and to the methylene blue reduction test to assess the hygienic quality. Pasteurised and sterilised milk samples were also submitted to the prescribed tests. Reports of adverse samples were notified to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for action by their officers. The following tables detail the number and results of samples taken during the year and also the results of investigations made by the Ministry's Divisional Veterinary Inspector arising from notifications of tuberculous milks.

	<u>No. of Samples</u>	<u>No. satis- factory</u>	<u>No. unsatis- factory</u>	<u>No Result</u>
<u>Raw Milk - Tuberculin Tested</u>				
(a) Tuberculosis biological test	37	34	1	2
(b) Methylene blue reduction test	38	33	5	-
<u>Raw Milk - Undesignated</u>				
(a) Tuberculosis biological test	48	47	1	-
(b) Methylene blue reduction test	45	39	6	-
<u>Pasteurised Milk</u>				
(a) Phosphatase test	6	6	-	-
(b) Methylene blue reduction test	6	6	-	-
<u>Sterilised Milk</u>				
(a) Turbidity test	3	3	-	-
<u>Veterinary Inspections</u>				
Number of herds examined .. .. .	..	..	..	2
Number of cases where animals seized under Tuberculosis Order, 1938 .. .. .	..	..	..	1
Number of animals seized .. .. .	..	..	..	1
Number of cases reported negative, no animals seized .. .. .	..	..	..	-
Number of cases reported negative, where animals sold prior to investigation .. .. .	..	..	..	1

The following Registrations and licences are in operation in the district:-

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

No. of registered distributors operating from:-

(a) Shops in the district	.. .. .	81
(b) Premises outside the district	.. .. .	3

The Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949-1954

No. of dealer's licences (including supplementary licences) for distribution of "Tuberculin Tested" milk	4
---	---------	---

The Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949-1953

		<u>Retail Distributions</u>
No. of licences issued in respect of		Pasteurised
"heat treated" milk	.. .. .	Sterilised
		7
		92

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

The carcasses and organs of all animals slaughtered in the five private slaughterhouses were inspected prior to release for human consumption. In order to maintain this system of inspection, work outside normal working hours, including Sundays, was necessitated.

All meat and offal is, immediately after condemnation, collected by the Department, stained with green dye and later sold for manufacture into feeding meals and fertilisers. The proceeds from the sale of the meat are credited to the butcher suffering loss whilst income from the sale of offal defrays the Corporation's handling charges. This system has worked satisfactorily and ensures proper control and satisfactory disposal of diseased meat and offals.

MEAT INSPECTION RECORD SUMMARY

	CATTLE EXCL. COWS	COWS	CALVES	PIGS	SHEEP AND LAMBS
No. of animals killed	1,249	668	70	295	7,771
No. of animals inspected	1,249	668	70	295	7,771
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	-	2	1	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	235	281	2	19	221
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticercosis	18.8	42.1	5.7	6.8	2.9
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	2	1	-	-
Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	104	179	-	11	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis ..	8.3	27.1	1.4	3.7	-
<u>Cysticercosis Only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	8	3	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	8	3	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with cysticercosis	0.64	0.45	-	-	-

Analysis of Condemnations

Disease Classification	Entire Carcases	Part Carcases	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Skirts	Livers	Part Livers	Kidneys	Spleens	Stomachs	Intestines	Udders	Tails	Wgt. of Meat lbs.	Wgt. of Offal lbs.
<u>Cattle (1917 Insp.)</u>																
Tuberculosis	2	19	75	246	9	21	31	-	11	9	2	83	2	2	4,236	4,217
Other than T.B.	1	1	32	24	6	7	83	242	14	5	1	5	144	1	1,205	5,498
<u>Calves (70 Insp.)</u>																
Tuberculosis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	2	1	1	1	-	1	79	25
Other than T.B.	2	1	2	4	3	2	2	-	4	2	2	2	-	2	111	34
<u>Sheep (7771 Insp.)</u>																
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other than T.B.	3	1	3	11	6	3	64	158	6	3	3	3	-	3	178	364
<u>Pigs (295 Insp.)</u>																
Tuberculosis	-	-	8	3	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	5	-	-	95	47
Other than T.B.	1	1	1	12	9	1	7	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	80	84

Weights Condemned

Weight of Meat

Weight of Offal

Tuberculosis
Other than tuberculosis

4,410
1,574

4,289
5,980

Total weights

5,984

10,269

Reason for Condemnation of Whole Carcases

Disease	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Tuberculosis	2	1	-	-
Generalised Bacteremia	-	-	-	1
Suppurative Arthritis	-	1	-	-
Fevered	1	-	-	-
Moribund	-	-	2	-
Badly bled	-	1	1	-

Post Mortem Data Concerning Cysticercosis

Cyst Location	No. of Cases	No. of Cysts	Type of Cyst	
			Viable	Non-viable
Head Only	11	13	10	3
Heart Only	-	-	-	-
Head and Heart	-	-	-	-

Three applications for licences under the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933 - 1954, were granted during the year.

Forty inspections were also made for the purpose of inspecting food at retailers' premises and the following articles were condemned:-

Cereals	-	3 lbs.	Meat, frozen	-	20 lbs.
Egg, tinned	-	42 lbs.	Meat, raw	-	140 lbs.
Fish, tinned	-	14 lbs.	Meat, tinned	-	611 lbs.
Fruit, tinned	-	75 lbs.	Milk, tinned	-	45 pints
Jam, tinned	-	9 lbs.	Soups, tinned	-	4 lbs.
			Vegetables, tinned	-	40 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

FOOD PREMISES

Two hundred and thirty-seven inspections of food premises were carried out and the following table shows the defects noted and those remedied. Informal notices covering all the defects were served upon persons concerned. Much work was in hand at the end of the year.

<u>Nature of Defect or contravention</u>							<u>Found</u>	<u>Abated</u>
1.	Cleanliness of persons and clothing	..	..				15	34
2.	Protection of food from contamination	..	..				63	60
3.	Cleanliness and condition of equipment	..	..				13	55
4.	Cleanliness and condition of structure	..	..				113	130
5.	Ventilation and lighting	..	..	..	..	..	8	14
6.	Washing facilities	..	..	..	..	..	73	81
7.	Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	2	2
8.	Sanitary accommodation	..	..	..	..	..	-	2
9.	Refuse storage accommodation	..	..	..	..	..	7	7
Totals							294	385

Three premises were registered for the manufacture of sausages during the year.

The number of food premises, by type of business, in the district at the end of the year was as follows:-

General grocers and provision dealers	139
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game, etc.)	26
Fishmongers (including those selling poultry, game, etc.) ..	2
Meat Shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe, etc.)	41
Bakers and/or confectioners	42
Fried fish shops	31
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream, etc.	21
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments	109
Others	4

ICE CREAM

There are five manufacturers of ice cream in the Borough, three of whom use the hot-mix method and two the cold-mix method. In only one instance is the production carried out on a large scale, the others are small traders and shopkeepers manufacturing for their own requirements. In all cases special rooms are used for ice cream manufacture, and none is made in association with domestic arrangements. Three new registrations for the sale of ice cream were approved.

The details of registrations at the end of the year were as follows:-

	<u>Hot Mix</u>	<u>Cold Mix</u>
1. Manufacturing retailers	3	2
2. Retail vendors - pre-packed	96	-
- loose	3	-
- pre-packed and loose	-	-
Totals ..	102	2

Generally speaking, inspection of the above premises revealed that the relevant Acts and Regulations, together with the adopted Lancashire County Council's Codes of Practice, were being satisfactorily observed.

Thirty-two samples of ice cream were collected for bacteriological examination and were reported on as follows:-

<u>Provisional Grade</u>	<u>No. of Samples</u>
1	19
2	4
3	4
4	5

The samples placed in Provisional Grade 4 were all derived from an out of town producer and the appropriate local authority was contacted. Samples collected at the end of the year proved satisfactory.

FOOD HYGIENE EDUCATION

Two courses of lectures for handlers were run in conjunction with the St. Johns Ambulance Association. The Department's Inspectors lectured and conducted the examinations. Close on 100 certificates have been awarded in recent years to food traders in the town. It is considered that locally food hygiene education in class has probably reached saturation point and it is unlikely that there will be much more demand. Education will of course continue by Inspectors during the course of their inspections.

FOOD AND DRUGS ADULTERATION

The Lancashire County Council undertake the sampling of food for quality, assistance being rendered by this Department as required. Dr. S. C. Gawne, County Medical Officer of Health, has kindly furnished the following information:-

A total of 125 samples was obtained; of these, 79 were of milk and the 46 others comprised:-

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Bacon. | 1 Gelatine. |
| 3 Soup, canned. | 2 Flour. |
| 2 Almond Oil. | 1 Vitamin tablets. |
| 2 Glycerin. | 1 Haliborange tablets. |
| 1 Vitamin sweets. | 2 Zinc ointment. |
| 1 Vitamin cordial. | 1 Cod Liver Oil. |
| 1 Meat Pie. | 1 Cake and Pie Filler. |
| 1 Beef Sausage. | 3 Suet. |
| 1 Arrowroot. | 1 Almonds, ground. |
| 2 Coffee. | 3 Sauce. |
| 2 Baking Powder. | 1 Fish, canned. |
| 1 Syrup. | 1 Bismuth tablets. |
| 1 Gravy mix. | 1 Vitamin capsules. |
| 2 Sago. | 2 Cider. |
| 1 Glucose drink. | 2 Fruit, canned. |
| 1 Cheese. | |

All the above samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of the following:-

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
Vitamin C. Limes	Declaration claimed 4.5 mgms. of Ascorbic Acid per lozenge. One packet contained 3.8 mgms. and the other 4.3 mgms. of Ascorbic Acid per lozenge.	Manufacturers communicated with.
Milk	Deficient 13.3% of Fat	Vendor notified.
Beef Sausage	Contained 190 parts per million Sulphite Preservative (expressed as Sulphur Dioxide) without declaration.	Vendor cautioned.
Sago	Both samples consisted of Tapioca.	Vendors communicated with.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT

Functions with regard to the above Act, which are administered by the Health Committee, are carried out by the Police. I am indebted to Supt. G. Smith for details of the work carried out by his officers during 1957.

Number of cases of Foot and Mouth Disease	..	..	..	..	Nil
Number of cases of Anthrax	..	..	..	..	Nil
Number of cases of Fowl Pest	..	..	..	..	Nil
Number of cases of Swine Fever	..	..	..	..	Nil
Number of cases of Sheep Scab	..	..	..	..	Nil
Number of cases of Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	1
Number of notices of intention to Sheep Dip	..	..	..	..	10
Number of movement licences under Foot and Mouth Disease Order, 1938	..	..	..	..	45

In addition to the above, one farm was visited for cleansing and disinfecting under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938.

-----000-----

INDEX

	<u>Pages</u>
SECTION A Statistics and Social Conditions	5-9
SECTION B General Provision of Health Services	10
SECTION C Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases	11-15
SECTION D Sanitary Circumstances	16-32
SECTION E Housing	33-36
SECTION F Inspection and Supervision of Food	37-44

-----000-----

	<u>Pages</u>		<u>Pages</u>
Atmospheric Pollution	25	Medical Officer of Health's	
Bacteriological Examination	13-14	Introductory Letter	3-4
Births	6-7	Milk Supply.	37-38
Chief Public Health Inspector's		Neo-natal Mortality	7
Introductory Letter	16-18	Nuisances, Recorded and	
Deaths	6-8	Abated	24
Diphtheria	11-12	Offensive Trades	27
Disinfestation	26	Pet Shops	29
Disinfection	26	Poliomyelitis	13
Diseases of Animals Act	44	Public Cleansing	30-32
Drainage and Sewerage	21	Public Conveniences	32
Factories, inspections	29-30	Public Health Inspections	22-23
Food Inspection.	41	Rag Flock	27
Food Poisoning	6	River Pollution	21
Food Premises	41-42	Rodent Control	27-29
Food and Drugs Sampling	43	Sanitary Accommodation and	
Health Committee	1	Conversions	22
Health Services	10	Schools, Sanitary Conditions	26-27
Housing	33-36	Smoke Abatement	25
Ice Cream	42-43	Staff	2
Infantile Mortality	6-7	Statistics, Local	5-7
Infectious Diseases	11-15	Tents, Vans and Sheds	27
Maternal Mortality	7	Tuberculosis	14-15
Meat Inspection	38-41	Vital Statistics	7,9
		Water Supplies	19-20

